











# PUBLICK DEVOTION,

Common Service

CHURCH

# **ENGLAND**

Justified, and Recommended

To all honest and well meaning, (however prejudiced) Diffenters.

By a Lover of his Countrey and the Protestant Religion.

St. John 7. 51.

Doth our Law judge any man, before it bear him, and know what he doth?

LONDON, Printed for Ben. Took at the fign of the Ship in St. Pauls Chruch Yard. 1675.



# Short Preface

TO THE

### Courteous Reader.

He Lawfulness and experience of Set Formes, especially in publique prayer, bath been abundantly, and to very good purpose, discoursed and vindicated in many Treatises already extant, and therefore I shall not now meddle at all with that argument. The gross neglects, and contempts of some, with

#### A Short Preface

with the disorders of others, as to the Common Service of the Church now injoyned, arise principally (as farr as my observation reaches) from the not under. standing and weighing aright these two things.

first, the great necessity worth and benefit of publique worship, with those qualifications which most properly belong thereunto; and

secondly, the sutable and excellent provision made for that performance by our present establishments as to every thing,

to the Reader.

thing, wherein a sober and understanding Christion, zealous of God's honour, with his own and others Salvation and welfare, can be concerned or gratified.

these noted obstacles of of Piety and Devotion out of the way, I make bold to offer unto you, my beloved Countreymen, this little Book, and earnestly importune you to read it over seriously, and consider of it impartially:

And then I doubt not, but you will thankfully accept, and

#### A Short Preface

and conscionably improve these charitable endeavours of one, that unseignedly wisheth you all that good and happiness, which you desire your selves, and would gladly contribute his utmost to the helping you forward in that way, which leads most certainly and directly to the obtaining of it.

PUBLICK

## Publick Devotion,

AND THE

## Common Service

OF THE

## Church of England

Justified and Recommended.

Prayer (according to that division of it, which suits my present purpose) is either solitary, by our selves alone, or social with others.

solitary or secret prayer is recommended to us, both by the precept and example of our B. Saviour; Enter into the Clo-Mat. 6. Set, saith he, and there pray to B the

thy Father which Seeth in Secret, and he will reward thee openly.

Mark 1.35. And thus did he himfelf (whom Mat. 14,23. to imitate is not only our duty but perfection) oftentimes retire to pray. Here the Soul may freely powre forth it felf unto God Almighty in the penitent confession and aggravation of particular fins, and implore a Supply of particular necessities, and return thanks for particular bleffings, and intercede on the behalf of particular Exiends and Relations: And there is no place but may be proper enough for this performance, if other circums Stances agree. Whereforever thou art thou mayst pray, faith S. Chryfostom, for thou thy felf art a Temple consecrate unto God, and therefore needst not be to seek for a place. And S. Bernard to a like purpole : Use thy felf, faith he, as a Temple of God. We find

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Is a meditating and praying in the Field, Job on the Dunghil, Hezekiah on the Bed, Jeremiah in the Pit, Daniel in the Den, our B. Saviour sometimes in the Mountain, sometimes in the Garden, S. Paul in the Prifon, S. Peter on the Houfetop: And yet those, whose quality and condition admits it, may questionless find great ad- See the vantage by the dedicating and for Private fetting apart some certain place Devotion, as peculiar for their devotions, Part. I. into which no other thoughts or business should enter.

Prayer, with others, is either more private, as in a Family, or publick in & with a Congregation.

Touching the former, it is no doubt fitting and expedient for every Christian Family to behave it self as a little Church; and those that would have the blessing of God on their hon-

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fet, ihould worthip him carefully there: taking up Josbua's pious refolution, and practifing upon it: As for me, and my Josh. 24 15 house (whatever others do) we will ferve the Lord. And tis not amiss to consider here, that the Apostle S. Paul seems to ditect this Exhortation peculiar. ly unto Masters ; Continue in Col. 4.1,2, prayer . and watch in the same with thanksgiving. And when S. Peter admonisheth Husbands to a discreet and Christian demeanour towards their Wives, upon this motive, 7 hat your

r Pet.3.7.

But then, as to publick prayer in and with the Congregation of Christians, because we live in an Age wherein it is strangely fallen both into neglet and

prayers be not hindred, he may well be thought to prefuppose the observance of prayer, not only for, but with each other.

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From this Religious Worship is Gods Temple call'd the House 1sa.56.7. of Prayer; and they who could not come to pray in it, yet used Dan.6.10. to pray towards it.

Of this publick prayer we read in Nehemiah: Ezra bleffed the Ch: 6.6. Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, Amen, Amen; with lifting up their hands, and they bowed and wo ship'd the Lord with their faces to the ground: And of this the Prophet Foel speaks by special Commission from God; Call a solemn Afsembly, gather the people, affemble 16, 7. the Elders; let the Priests, the Ministers of the Lord, weep between the Porch and the Altar 3 and let them fay, spare thy people, O Lord .-

And this is, believe it, a most

necessary part of the Communion of Saints in the Christian Church, as we may note their practife from the beginning. We have it storied remarkably of the first Christians: The Spectators of our B. Saviours Ascension, are said to return forthwith from Mount Oliver to Jerusalem; and when they were come in, they went up into an upper room (their then Oratory) where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the fon of Alpheus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the Brother of James : [that is, the eleven Apostles, who are faid to have abode here, as the place of their constant and united devotions.] These all ( saith the facred Text) continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the Women, and Ma-

Ad. 1.12, 13, 6c. nion

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ry the Mother of Jesus, and his Brethren: The number of names (or persons) together, was an hundred and twenty. And then of the three thousand Converts added to them; being once admitted into the Christian Church, it is faid , They continued stedsastly (and that toge- At.2.42. ther) in the Apostles Dostrine and 44. Fellowship, and breaking of bread ana prayers . - Again when S. Peter was in prison, prayer was made without ceafing (instant and Ad. 12.5. carnelt prayer) by the Church, unto God for him: and upon his verf. 12. deliverance, he came to the confe of Mary, the Mother of John, peratores whofe firname was Mark, where Romani many were gather d together pray - mandata dare Prafiing. And when S. Paul writes dibus foleto Timithy the most necessary bant: Ita Instructions and Commands for Timotheo the well ordering of those Chur-mandata thes whereof he was Bishop or dat Episcopis. Grot.

Governour, he fees down this as of principal regard : I exhort, 1 Tim. 2. that first of all supplications, 1, 2 3. prayers, intercossions, and giving Hoc priof thanks, be made for all men, mum, inquit, prafor Kings, and for all that are Icribo. Id in Authority, that we may lead a in locum quiet and peaceable life in all god-Dostrine Apostolica liness and honesty: For this (saith regula quà he) is good and acceptable in the Ecclesia universalis fight of God our Saviour. imbuitur.

Pracepit
Apostolus, imo per Apostolum Dominus—quam legem supplicationis ità omnium sacerdotum & omnium sidelium devotio concorditer tenet, ut nulla pars mundi sit, in qua hujusmodi orationes non celebrentur à populis Christianis Scriptor de vocatione Genium. And again, vers. 8, 9 l will therefore that men pray every where (in the side of the publicis precibus. Preces Deo hodie non minus grate in quavis Ecclesia quam in Templo Hierosolymitano Grot.) in every Church Assembly, after the manner, and to the purposes before suggested, listing up holy hands without wrath and doubting (i. e. hatred towards men, and diffidence towards God) likewise also the women.

Now the more to endear unto us a due attendance upon the common and joynt prayers of the Church, let it be considered.

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First, that This is necessary to approve our selves genuine members of the visible Church of Christ militant upon Earth. Sheep of Christs Flock and Fold in distinction not only from the rest of the World. Out of which we are called; but also from Schismatical Christians, that Rent and Cut themselves off from this Communion. The expressions of St. Jude are very opposite to this purpose. These (saith he) be they Jud. 19.2% which separate themselves, fenfual, having not the Spirit. (whatever boast they make of it) but ye beloved (in a way of distinction from These, that have this brand of Schism upon them) building up your selves in your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, keep your selves in the Love

Not forfak Love of God, looking for the ing the affembling of mercy of our Lord Jefus Christ

your felves unto eternal Life.

together, as Secondly, This joynt prayer the manner with the Church is of all other of some is - Heb, the most prevalent; when we 10.25. come together, as Tertuliian

Quali ma- speaks, in an hely combination, as nu factà. it were, to wrestle with God Hæc vis and prevail for a bleffing, be-Deo grara eft. Terral fore we leave him. This Sa-Apol.

cred force and violence is pleafing and acceptable unto God, and the

Vis unita more there are engaged in it, fortior. still the mire effectual. For if

where two or three are gather'd together in Christs name, be is, ac-

cording tohis gracious Promife, with them to hear and answer their requests in what they so agree to ask of God; certainly,

where there are many Twos and 7 bree's, they have more affurance of speeding from hence

then it will follow.

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Matth. 18. 19,20.

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Thirdly, that we are extreamly injurious to our felves and others by our neglects of this kind. It was the faying of a fewish Rabbi, that whoever awells in any Ci- Quisquis ty where there is a Synagogue or tem in qua House of prayer, and prayes not extat lynawith the congregation there is de goga, & infervedly to be look'd upon and catur cum reputed an ill neighbour. The catu pubs lico, is eft, reason is evident, he with- qui meridraws his helping hand from his to diciother neighbours. He with vicinus, drawes, I fay, his belping hand, Maimoniand that phrase I take from St. des. Lib.de. Paul to the Corinthians. In whom we trust that he will deliver 2 Cor.1.11. us, you also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf. - I can only with there were not many fuch bad Neighbours to be found every where; and I might have faid

faid as well bad subjetts to their King, and bad friends to the pub. lick, by withdrawing their help from the common prayers of the Church, which, the more united they are, must needs prove, as hath been faid, the more available to procure a bleffing from Heaven. The Elders of the Jews in the Gofpel concluded of the worthy Centurion, that he Loved their Nation in that he built them a Synagogue. And we may well presume, upon the same score. that they would have condemned fuch as baters of their nation, that resorted not thereunto.

Fourthly, neglect here argues and proclaimes us to be of a very evil and irreligious temper; quite contrary to the character given us of the man after God's own heart the breathings of whose soul were evermore pas-

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Luk. 7.5.

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fionate this way, to the publick Pf 26. worship and service, I will wash mine hands in innocency, faith he. so will I compass thine Altar. O Lord, that I may publif with the voyce of thanksgiving, and tell of thy wondrous works, Lord, I bave Loved the habitati on of thine house, the place where thine bonour dwelleth. - one thing have 1 Pf. 27. desired of the Lord, that will ! feek after, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord, all the dayes of my Life to behold the Beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his Temple. - As the Heart panteth Pl. 42. after the water brooks fopanteth my foul after thee, O God; my foul thirsteth for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God ? my tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me where is thy God? when I remember those things, I power out my foul

foul within me: for I had gone with the multitude: I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holy day. O God, thou art my God, early will I feek thee: my foul thir feth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee, in a dry and thirsty land, where ho water is, to see thy power and thy glory so as I have seem thee in the Sandnary. — How aimiable are thy Tabernacles, O Lord of Hosts! my foul longeth, yea even fainteth for the Courts of the Lord; my flesh cryeth out for the living God. Bleffed be they that dwell in thy house! they will be fill prasing thee. A day inthy courts is better than a thousands I had rather be a door keeper (would chuse rather to sit at the threshold) in the house of my God, then to dwell in the tents of wickedness .- I was glad when they

Pf. 84.

Pfa.63.

Pf,122°

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they said unto me let us go into the house of the Lord: our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem: whether the Tribes go up, the Tribes of the Lord unto the Testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord. -And under the New Testa» ment in like manner it hath been the commendation of devout and pious persons, to be affidaous worshippers of God in the Temple. Of Anna it is said, that Soe departed not from the Tem-Luk 2-37. ple, but ferred God with fastings and prayers night and day. And of the Apostles, that they were Ch.24.53 continually in the Temple praifing and bleffing God.

Lastly, It deserves surther to be considered, that in God's house of prayer we have not only the advantage of engaging with many suppliants and joynt petitioners, but somewhat also

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from the place it felf, confecrated and devoted aith solemn pray. ers unto God, that he who heareth prayers would have a gracious regard unto, and blefs those who shall there affemble to worthip him. This was the parc of Solomon's prayer, which God acr cepted and approved well of, at the dedication of the Temple. Hearken thon, saith he, unto the supplication of thy servant, and and of thy people Israel, when they shall pray in (or towards) this place and hear thou in beaven thy dwelling place, and when thou hearest forgive. Unto which God answers. Now mine eyes shall be open and mine eares attent unto the prayers that is made in this place; for now I have chosen and sandified this housesthat my name may be there for ever, and mine eyes and my beart shall be there perpetually. And

1 King, 8;

2 Chron. 7.

And a like bleffing, I doubt not, in some good degree may be expected still by us in every place Set a part by prayer unto God's fervice, according to his gracious promife of meeting and bleffing his people in every place, where His Name is recorded. We may confidently Exod. 20. look for a welcome treat from 24. him in his oun house. They Shall be fatisfied, faith the Pfalmitt , Ffal. 36 8. with the plentiousness of thy house. And I, faith God himself, will 16a.56.7. make them joyful in my house of prajer; even us Gensiles, as well as the Jews of oid, for my house, faith he, shall be call'd an horse of Prayer for all People.

Thus far I have proposed some of those great ergagements and encouragements we have unto publique and common Prayer. I will now subjoyn a brief account of the qualifications pecu-

liar'y requisite thereunto, that it may be acceptable and effectual; and this (as I have before digested the motives) in five

particulars.

First, Whosoever ministers in publique prayers must speak audibly and intelligibly to the Congregation; for otherwise their devotion is idle, their unde fanding being un-imployed, They cannot say, Amen. And where men draw near to God with their Bodies only, and honour him with their Lips, while their Hearts and Souls are removed from him, their mind and affections not engaged in his worthip, instead of pleasing of him by fuch an hypocritical and more outfide service, they do but provoke him. Here therefore we must condemn all those that either whisper or mutter over divine Service, fo as the people

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people cannot hear them, or post and buddle it over in such an hasty manner as the understanding and devotion of the People cannot accompany or keev pace with you. Here also we must needs reject and centure Prayers made in a tongue unknown to the Cong egation, or fuch elevated straines and affeded expressions, as are like a Language unknown to the people. The Apostle's discourse to the Corinthians is sufficiently convincing as to this disorder. If the Trumpet give I Cor. 14. an uncertain found, who shall prepare h.mfelf to the battail? so I kenise ye, unless ze utter by the tongue words easie to be understood, him shall it be known what is spoken? for ye shall Speak into the air, and how hall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned fay Amen at the giving

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of thanks, seeing he understandethnot what thou sayest? &c.

Secondly, The publique prayers require unanimity, so we read of the first Christians. They were altogether with one accord in one place, the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and one soul: and St. Paul severely chides the Corinthians for discord in their assemblies, first of all, when ye come together in the Church, I hear there be divisions among you. The Christian-Church is one body, animated

fpirit, wershipping one and the same spirit, wershipping one and the same God, professing one and the same faith and hope, and therefore we should at all times endeavour to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace; But then more especially, when we come together in the house of God

Act. 4.23.

Act 2.1.

1 Cor. 11.

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as brethren, and joint petitioners to folicitate our heavenly Fathers bleffing. St. Cyprian commenting upon those words of our Blessed Saviour " I say St. Matth. "unto you that if two of you "Thall agree on earth, rouching " any thing that ye thall ask, it " shall be done for you of my "Father which is in heaven; for where two or three are ga-"thered together in my name, St. Cypr.de "I am with them ] Notes unitate Ec-" judiciously from thence, that 11. e very much is afcribed not to "the multitude but to the una-" nimity of those that pray. " Christ first placed unity, pre-"mised the agreement of peace, " faithfully and firmly taught, c that we should agree together, " If two of you shall agree on ec earth. But how can he agree " with any one, who agrees "not with the Body of the C3 "Church

cs Churco it felf and with the whole Brotherhood? How " can two or three of those be " gather'd together in the " name of Christ, who are comanifestly separated from " Christ and his Gospel? - So he urgeth the matter against the Novation schismaticks that had this two or three much in their mouths; and afterwards he adds. "When Christ saith where two or three are ga-" ther'd together in my name, "I am with them ] He divideth "not men from the Church, " who did institute and make of the Church, but upbraiding "the perfidious with their dif-"cord, and commending e peace to the faithful, he "Thews, that he is more with ec two or three praying unanimouly, than with never fo " many in diffention, and that

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er more may be obtained by the agreeing prayer of a few, " than by the disagreeing pray-

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Thirdly, This unanimity and confent should be restified by bearing some part in the fervice, or at the least giving an hearty and audiable Amen to it, fo was God's command under the Old Testaemnt, All the people Shali answer and say Amn, and accordingly we find the Deu. 27. people's practice. All the pe ple answered Anen, Amen, Nehe 8. so likewise the Apostle supposeth under the New in that reasoning of his, before referr'd to, Him Shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen? And St. Hierom tells us, that in his time the devout acclamations Ad similinof the Christian Church re- lestis tonifounded like an Heavenly Thun- trui, Mer. in der, now this same consent is epead Gal.

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restified more at large by repeating the prayers, and confessions, and praises together with, and after the Minister, or else bearing a part with him only by way of responsal in the service. And fuch is the pattern fet us by the Celestial Quire of Angels, who fing one to ano. ther , Holy, Holy , Moly. Such the usage of the Jewish Church. Miriam the Prophetels, and the Women that went out after her with Timbrels and daunces, praising God upon his destroying the Egyptians, their persecutors, in the Red-Sea, answered each to other. And Miriam answer'd them, faith the Text, sing je to the Lord for he hath triumphed gloriously. and so afterwards, when Dawid returned from the flaughtof the Philistines, the women in their long's answer'd one to anather

Ifa,6.3.

Exod. 15.

1 Sam. 18.

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nother saying, Saul bath flain his thousand; and David his ten thousand. Upon Solomon's prayer, when the Glory of God filled the house All the Children 2 Chr on of Ifrael, we read, bowed their 7.3. faces to the Ground upon the pave- Chron. 16. ment and worshipped and praised 14. the Lord, faying, for he is good, for his mercy endureth for ever. A form we meet with often in the Pfalmes and feveral times repeated in one and the same 16.29.9. Pfalm, being that most probably wherein the whole Quire joyned.

Thus in God's Temple did avequence every one speak of his honour and year was fill praising of him. Of confessione. Anna it is recorded that the respondere. did A. swer in her gratulatory confession to Simeon, that went before her therein. And the primitive Christians, as Pliny tells us, were wont to fing

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\* Quod folianto Christ, as God, by course or ti effent fta. turnes, in the way of response to die ante or alteration. Incem con-

venire car menque . Christo quafi Deo dicere fecum Invicem. ep.97.

Eusebius speaking of certain Religious Asceticks in Egypt, and mentioning many things about them from Philo Judaus, a-Plin. 1. 10. mong the rest he notes those facred Hymns which were usualy recited among Christians, and that after this manner; i.c. One with a decent modulation be.

TES TEXE-हि अवा संक-BOTOS TEGS พุ่นสัร ขุน-PHC . -Evos UT בשנו שונו אנופים Mas on. LZANAN 10 oi xo1moi kal'

gins the Pfalm (as the precentor) and the rest listening a while in filence Chaunt forth together by way of Eccho, the latter words or claufes of the hymns only. - Somwhat of this kind hath been the continued practice both of the Greek and Latin Church.

nsuxiar angodulios, Al Eurov Ta angolexerle σιωεξηχεσιν, Eufeb. Eccl. Hift. l. 2. c.17.

> Fourthly the publique pray-CTS

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ers call for a great portion of External reverence. Here we must be sure to glorifie God in our bodies as well as with our Spirits, the rather to declare and publish unto others our re-Pfal.5.7. verent thoughts and esteem of 89.7. his Majefty, and excite the like in them. As for me, faith David, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy, and in thy fear will I worship towards thy holy Temple. And again, God is greatly to be frared in the assembly of the Saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him. Here therefore the Apostle's golden Canon should evermore take place. Let all things be done decently, and orderly, in good and comly 1 Cor. 14. falbion, or gracefully, and ac- Euoxnubcording unto order, as the ori- ves & ginal words impart. Those x? Tasiv. struenty and lazy postures, Mal. 1.6. which

which we should blush at before an earthly Prince or Governour, are most undoubtedly
by vertue of this to be utterly
banished the house of God. Let
us have grace, saith the Apostle
to the Hebrews, that we may
ferve God acceptably with reverrence and Godly fear.

Heb. 12. rence

Phil. 2.2.

Fiftly and lastly, nothing is here more beautiful and becoming than uniformity; when

Rom. 15.6. we do all with one mind and with one mouth too, glorifie God,

and thus shew our selves to be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, and of one mind; when we testifie our cordial agreeing together by doing all the same thing, and useing as much as is possible, the same gestures of devotion walking in the same rule or ca-

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noted before of Solomon's time, under the third head, and lo likewise we find it afterwards. All the people flood at Ezra's opening of the Book of the Law, Nehem. 8. and all the people answered Amen, Amen, with lifting up their heads at his prayers, and they bowed their heads and wor-In pped the Lord with their face to the ground. There is an amiableness every where in 'Uniformity: we all commend and admireit, and this latter age hath well express'd it in their Buildings; and therefore should study to preferve & promote it likewise in the Spiritual Pf. 133 1. Building of the Church. Behold, how good, and how pleasant, a thing it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity! to dwell even together, as the Margin reads it, and to witness as much by their uniformity in the worthip and **fervice** 

fervice of God. Diversity of usages in one and the same assembly, occasion manifold disgusts and confusions, and God is not the author of consustion (tumult or unquietness) but of peace, as in all the Churches of the Saints, saith the Apostle.

B Cor. 14.

Thus much premised in the Recommendation; and for the regulation of the publique prayers of the Church in the General, I shall next endeavour, as briefly as I can, to expose the most excellent provision made for the same by the Church of England to a more particular view.

And here I will not detain you with any presatory discourse of the Reverena compilers of our Liturgy in the Reign of King Edward the sixth (some of whom not long after sealed the truth of their Protestant profession with their Blood) or with

with the relation of that deferved esteem it hath since found among the worthiest of men, both at home and abroad, only you may please to note with me two things more generally, which are not lightly to be

paff'd over.

First, that by this meanes the Communion of Saints among us is much enlarged; for, while we joyn together in these Holy prayers and service, we have not only that particular. Congregation, of which we are, but all the Churches and assemblies of the Land offering up with us the very same respects and thanksgivings unto God: and

Secondly, that these Common-Prayers have been devoted and consecrated unto God by the deliberate consent of all estates of men among us, both Clergy and Laity,

as a continual Sacrifice, & therefore not to be omitted without a kind of Sacriledge; and while we are performing of our duty herein, over and besides other graces, we give proof and testimony of that necessary vertue of our obedience to that authoricy: which in all lawful and honest things should evermore command us; a vertue, however flighted among many, of very great esteem in God's account, as we may observe in the story of the Rechabites, which he is pleased to recite with commendation, and upbraid his people the Jews with.

But then as to particulars, nothing is able to speak so sully and effectually for our Church Liturgy as it self; and those who shall examine it throughout with due attention, and a sence of piety, will certainly

pronounce,

Jer 35:

pronounce, that hardly any thing more grave and ediffing, or more accommodate to the ends of Christian communion could be appointed, or substituted in the room of it. To make which good now, I shall northink it labour lost (nor will the Reader judge it, I hope, an unpleasant or unprofitable entertainment) to run over the most considerable part of these our common devotions with some short reslections upon them.

ether in the house of God, but we are preparing for that spiritual and Heavenly work, we there meet about, by the tecital of some pertinent sext of holy scripture, and a pathetical admonition of the great and weighty ends and purposes of our

coming thither : Namely,

To acknowledge and con-

" fels our manifold fins, and

" wickedness.

"To render thanks for the great benefits we have re-

"ceived at God's hand.

"To fer forth his most holy

re praise:
To hear his most holy

word: and

"To ask those things which are requisite and necessary, both for body and Soul.

Which religious ends of our Church Assemblies, were they as they ought, observed and considered by us, our coming together would certainly be more for the better, than too usually it proves for want of attending hereunto.

At the same time we are directed to begin all, as it becomes sinful Dust and Ashes, approaching to the Heavenly and Holy Majesty, with the free and o-

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1 Cor. 11.

pen confession of our guilt and unworthiness unto God, and that after a right and most Christian manner, that is to say with an humble, lowly, and penitent heart, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite

goodness and mercy.

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Upon which therefore follows a general confession of an admirable composure to be said jointly of the whole Congregation accompanying the Minister upon their knees, with a pure heart, and humble voice, (thus Mat. 18.19. to make up an holy Sympho- Συμφωνήnie) in the arraigning and con- cooiv. demning themselves with their own mouths before their Almighty and most Merciful Father and Judge; begging of his forbearance, pardon, and grace according to the declarations of the Gospel, according to his encouraging promifes to mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. Now after this confession, while we continue on our knees in the posture of penitents, the Prieft, (to whom God hath committed the Ministry and word of reconciliation, and so given him power and commandment to declare and pronounce unto his people being penitent the absolution and remission of their sins) according to the facred authority and commission given him from Heaven, stands up to your great assurance and comfort to pronounce the Divine absolution.

By the way you see why the Priest alone is to do this, and why he stands at the doing of it, being an ast of his pecu-

liar authority.

And having so done, very seasonably he awakens us to call upon God to grant us true

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that we may be persons qualified for the genuine effect of
that absolution pronounced,
and demean our selves for the
future worthy of it; that what
we do at present may please God,
and the rest of our life hereaster
may be pure and holy, so that at
the last we may come to his Eternal joy, through Jesus Christ our
Lord. And then we to witness
our hearty consent, and divers
of the same, as in the end of our
other prayers are to say, Amen.

The Scripture tells us that God hears not sinners, and if we we regard iniquity in our hearts, he will not regard our prayers; but if we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us.— And therefore it is but meet that upon our first entrance on God's holy and solemn worship we fall down on our bended Knees,

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confessing penitently, that we may be capable of his forgivnels, and have grounded hopes of speeding in all the requests we prefer unto him.

And when we have thus confessed, with that compunction of Soul and Godly forrow, which becomes penitents, nothing certainly can be more joyous and acceptable than to hear the Gospel absolution proclaimed unto us, by one whom God himself hath authorized thereunto. Who would not hereupon esteem it his priviledge to fay, Amen? even fo beit, Good Lord, unto thy fir-After this succeeds

Lord's Prayer, as the beginning of our most folemn Service, and that very fitly. For having penitently confess'd our fins we are encouraged by the es

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divine absolution to draw nigh Advocati unto God as our Father, with nostri verwhom we cannot intercede at ba promany time more prevailingly mus.—
any time more prevailingly mus.—
than in that blessed form of words ficatius which his beloved Son our Hea. imperamus which his beloved Son our Hea. imperamus venly Advocate hath drawn up mus in for, and recommended to our Christi nomine, si pentamus ipsi-

That most excellent prayer us oratione? is the foundation and pattern of St. C.pr in our other prayers, and therefore not amiss for us to begin
with it; and 'tis the most absolutely perfect and comprehensive
of all others, and therefore not vide Teramiss too to be joyned with and tull deoconclude them, as somtimes also rates,
it doth in the Churche's Service.

Nor need it to offend any that the doxology, for thine is the Kingdom &c. is at fomtimes omitted in the Rehearful of it; for so it is by St. Luke bimself

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Luke II.

the opinion of men both learned and judicious, that it is rather of Ecclesiastical than divine authority, and added to St. Matthew out of the devotions of the Greek Church, and not found in the most antient

Brasm.in Mar.6, 13,

manuscript.

Then a pious ejaculation or two, being lift up both by Priest and People unto God for ability to praise him and speedy succour, and relief from him against our adversary the Devil, who is where the Sons of God are met to-

Job 1.6.

Ezek, 3.1.

gether to molest them, and at our right hand (as at Joshua's) to reject and hinder us.

Priest.

O Lord open thou our lips.
Anf.

And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise. Priest.

O God make speed to save us.

Anf.

alder Anf.

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O Lord make hast to help us.]

Ve are all directed to stand up and give glory unto God. as it becometh Christians distinguished from Jews, Turks, Pagans or Insidels, and Hereticks, in that most Christian Hymns, and short abridgment of our Creed.

Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end, Amen.

The Mystery of the Holy Trinity, God the Farher, Son, and Holy Ghost, into whose name we were baptized, is the sum of that Faith which is peculiarly Christian, and the glory of this Blessed and undivided Trinity is the great end of our lives, and ought to be the scope and aime especially of our Religious. Services.

fervices. This admirable Doxology therefore is worthy of a frequent repetition in our directions, wherein we are obliged to celebrate the Glory of the Tri-une God, whom we profess to believe in and adore above all Infidels, and against all Heriticks , old and new . a tree!

In the next place, as mindful of the Apostle's admonition that we be fill'd with the Spirit Epc. 5.18. speaking to our selves in Pfalms and Hymns, and Spiritual Songs, making melody in our hearts to the Lord; we are trained up, first to awaken, animate, and encourage one another to that work, and then to fet upon the performance of it.

19.

First, Isay, to awaken, animate, and encourage each other to the work of Psalmodie. To that purpose the Priest exhorts, Praise se the Lord and the People anlwer

Iwer The Lords name be praised, and then follows the invitatory Psalm, called Venite, O come Let us sing unto the Lord; let us beartily rejoyce in the strength of our Salvation, — O come let us worship and fall down and kneel before the Lord our maker.

-We have the most considerable notives so to do. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all Gods— For he is the Lord our God, and we are the people of his Pasture, and the sheep

of his bands.

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The droine Majesty and benesicence, and our continual dependence urge us strongly hereunto.
Let us therefore do it, and do it
chearfully, and presently too in
the season for it; there is danger in delays and our Fathers
smarted on this account. To
day, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.—And then
Secondly,

Secondly, that we may perform accordingly the Pfalms of the day are to succeed in their order (unless upon such occasions, which have felect and special ones appointed) that whole Book of facred and inspired devotions being fo divided by parts, as to be gone through

every month.

Now these Pfalms, as all other hymns, are regularly to be faid or lung by courfe, the Priest or Minister one verse, and the people another, or (as the manner is in Cathedral and collegiare Churches) one side of the Ouire one verse, and the other fide another, with the recital of our most Christian Doxology mond's The Book of Psalms (as the Learned observes) is in the original of a peculiar composition in poetical form, and ought to have

Pfalms.

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have it's use seperate and distinst from other scriptures, belonging to the whole Assembly not only as naked hearers, but as afters also, bearing some part and share in the lauding God by and with them. Hezekiah in his Godly reformation commanded the Levites to fing praise 2 Chron. to the Lord with the words of Da- 29.30. vid and Afaph the feer, and they, as we read; Sang praises accordingly and bowed their heads and and worshipped in what manner I pointed out before. And thus hath our Chutch instructed us to teach and admonish one Col:3,16: another in Pfalms, and Hymns, and Spiritual Songs, finging with grace (or gratitude) in our hearts unto the Lord, and that in the divine words of the Swett finger of Ifrael, and such like facred Penmen:

Now what can more fitly declare

ther than the rehearfal of these Psalms and Hymns interchangeably and by course together? and what can more pertinently demonstrate, that we do all this with grace or gratitude in our bearts to the Lord, (as the primitive Christians were accustomed to sing Hymns by course to Christ, as God) than the Doxology added in the conclusion of our Psalms and Hymns? Glory be to the Father, and to the Sonsand to the Holy Ghost.

And what posture, I beseech you, more suitable for this our Psalmodie than that of standing, that by the erection of our bodies we may in some measure express the elevation or listing up of our minds to God? and that the rather because this gesture is taken notice of in Scripture as most proper for our lauds and thanks-

thunksgiving. Behold now praise
the Lord all ye servants of the Ps. 134.1.21
Lord, ye that by night stand in
the house of the Lord, and again,
O praise the Lord, land ye the 135.1.22
name of the Lord, praise it, O
ye servants of the Lord, ye that
stand in the house of the Lord,
in the Courts of the house of our
God. At this Office we read,
All I frael stood in David's time; 2 Chron.7.
and so long after the Levites
call unto the people, stand up Nche. 9.5.
and bless the Lord your God.

There is not certainly any exercise more becoming Christian Assemblies in their publique worthip of God, than thus in his Temple to be every one speaking of him; praise, saith the Psal. 33. 11. Psalmist, is comly for the upright, 147. 1. and again, it is good to sing praises to par God, for it is pleasant and praise is comly. And the

the manner of performance could not be more decently, and to greater edification provided for, than is prescribed (by canon or custom) among us in all the points beforementione, were our hearts but once in tune for so sacred a work, and out practice more uniform, devout, and barmonious in the celebration of it.

After this holy exercise of reciting or chaunting forth the divinely inspired Pfalms to the glory of God, and the building up each of other, follows a double lesson to be read for our instruction, the one commonly out of the Old Testament, the other out of the New, and at the close of each a devout Hymn of praise.

A Lesson we have out of both Testaments, that we may see their admirable agreement,

that

that, in St. Peter's phrase, we may be mindful of the words 2 Pet 2.3. which were spoken before of the holy Prophets, and of the Commandment of the Apostles of our Lord and Saviour. But first out of the Old and then out of the New, that we may correspond with the Divine method, which first vouchsafed the Old and then superadded the New; and that we may observe the goodnels of God to us in the Comments which the New bath made for us upon the Old. And what can be more to our benefit and advantage, then thus to hear the very Oracles of God in our own language? those exce!lent Sermons which Adefes and the Prophets in the Old Testament, and Christ or his Apostles preached to the world by the immediate affiftance of the Holy Spirit in the New? These unundoubtedly should always retain a preheminence in our thoughts beyond the discourses of other men; for the best of men's Sermons are no farther divine then they agree berewith.

happiness of the Jews, 'that Moses and the Prophets were read in their Synagogues every Subbath day. But behold a greater then Moses is hear, and one whom all the Prophets soretold of pointed to. We have moreover Christ and his Apostles and so our 'Ears are blessed with that in the accomplishment which the Holy men of old did long for, and expect to be in due time, but foresaw only asar off.

Luke 10. 23,24.

> All the close of these Lesfons, as I said, are appointed Hymns or Canticles of praise, that we may learn in all things,

as our duty is, to give thanks, and having heard God speak from Heaven unto us, rise up, as it becometh us, and laud his name.

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To this pupofe in the morning follows the Te Deum, or we praise thee, O God, we acknowledge thee to be the Lord, &c .- Tis usualty ascribed to St. Ambrofe; and St. Augustine joyntly. But, who ever were the Pen men, to be reverenced highly for its antiquity and excellent composition. 'Tis indeed both a Creed containing the mysteries of our Christian faith, and a most folemn and worthy form of thanksgiving, praise and adoration, or else the Benedicite, or Hymn of the three Children, Oall we works of the Lord bless we the Lord, praise him and magnifie him for ever &c. Wherein the whole Creation is

is brought in as conspiring together to celebrate it's Maker. A dacred and wravishing hymn of praise, it is received with great esteem and veneration throughout the Worlds And by the way, if any chance to stumble, as some have done, at this manner of Inwocation, as it were, or Apostrophe rather unto the vieweral Creatures, they may find an unexceptionable pattern of as much in the Pfalmiso Or, if they skill not not those words in the close O Ananias, Azarias and Mifael, they may please to Dan 1.6,70 take motive, that the oferwere the most proper names of the three famous Confessors, whom the Prince of Nebuchadnezzurs Eunuchs Stiled Shadrack , Me-Shach and Abednego. Then after the fecond Leffon Bened: Elus, or Zacharie's Song upon the

Pfal. 148.

the birth of John the Baptist,
the immediate forerunner of
Christ. Blessed be the Lord
God of Israel, for he hath visita
ed and redeemed his peopl, &c. Lukes.68.
or David's Jubilate O be josful
in the Lord allyelands &c. — Psal, 100.

In like manner after the Evening Lessons, the Blessed Virging's 'Magnificent, or divine fong of praise upon the bearing of christ in her Womb, my Soul doth magnifie the Lord, Luke 1.46. &c. -Or good old Simeon's Nune dimittis, upon the fight Ch.2.29. of Christ in the Temple ' Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy &c .- Or elfe bea excellent Pfalms of praise, reflecting upon the extraordinary grace vouchsafed unto all men in the Gospel, and their obligations to laud him for the fame, Cantate Domino. O fing Plat 58.

E 3 unto

@fal,67.

unto the Lord a new Song, for he hath done marvellous things &c. And Deus Misereatur, God be merciful unto us and bless us &c. All of them either hymns most properly and peculiarly Christian, as Te Deum, Benedictus, magnificat, nunc dimittis; or very pertinent and accommodate in the general for the inflaming and expressing the devout assessing ons of Christians towards God; as all the rest.

Next in order succeeds the Creed or summary of our (hristian faith, to be rehearsed joyntly both by Priest and People standing. And this is a piece of divine worthip, not well to be omitted by Christians in their publique assemblies, so many texts of holy Scripture engageing them to an open profession of their Faith, as whosever shall confess me before men him will. I

Matth.10.

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confess before my Father which is
in heaven. And if thou shalt Rom, 10.9,
confess with thy mouth the Lord

Fiss, and believe in thy heart
that God hath raised him from
the dead, thou shalt be saved;
for with the heart man believeth
anto righteousness, and with the
mouth confession is made unto Salvation. And That every tongue
should confess, that fesus Christ Phil.2.223
is Lord to the glory of God the
Father, &c.

And this rehearfal of our Creed as fitly comes in after the reading of the Lessons out of holy Scripture; for as the Apostle saith "Faith comes by hearing: first hearing and then Faith. The foundation of our faith is the word of God, and this is the sum of what we learn Rom, to believe in order to our salvation out of the Holy Scriptures. Whether the Apostles themselves

composed this Creed, every one contributing his symbol, I dispute not: 'tis enough for us, that it is according to their do-Arine. And the Nicene and Athanasian Creeds are only explications of the Apostolical, occasioned by the opposition made thereunto by Hereticks.

Jude 3.

And then this confession of our Christian saith, the faith once delivered to the Saints which we are to contend earnestly for, is to be made standing, to signific our readiness to profess and resolution to adhere and stand to it. Thus when we affert any thing with much earnestness we usually say, This is the truth and we will stand to it.

E pher.6.

That also is the posture proper for Christian Souldiers, as St. Paul admonisheth.

After this, a pious salutation of Christian and mutual love interchanged

terchanged between Minister and People,

Prieft.

The Lord be with you:

And with thy Spirit.

We are called upon again to compose our selves for Prayer on our knees, with a Let us pray. An wolsome form of words frequently used to rouze and rally our sleeping and mandring devotions, like that provision among the Gentiles in their sacred worship, who had a Cryer (as Plutarch somewhere reports) with a loud voyce to awaken them, saying, Hoc age, mind and intend what you are about.

And the Prayers begin with a short but pathetical Litany, or supplication to the Holy Trinity (in whom we have before professed our faith) for Mercy.

Then

Then succeeds the Lord's Prayer, for all the Disciples of Christ to joyn in, as he nath taught them to call upon that God, in whom they believe. Of which I have spoken before, and shall subjoyn a pharaphrase at the end of this treatise.

After this the Minister stands up again (to tellifie the authority of his Function in making intercession by prayer with God) and he and the People together lift up several pithy ejaculations unto Heaven, for Mercy and Salvation, To King and Subjects, Ministers and People for peace and holiness.

Upon which follows more folemn prayers, 'The Collect' for the day, for Peace and Grace in the morning; and in the Evening, 'That for aid against all perils of the night.

The

The people in this of, fice fome-what re-fembling Aaron and Hur that stayed up Mofes his hands while he prayed Exod, 17.

The intercession for the King's Majesty, for the Royal Family, for the Clergy and People, for the High Court of Parliament, during Sessions, for all estates and conditions of men, and 'the general thanksgiving. Each of them of a grave, and pious, and profitable composition, and worthy a more distinct consideration, but that it would swell my discourse into a greater compass than I inrend. Herein our Church seems plainly to have had before her eyes that charge I Tim. 2. and command of St. Paul unto 1.2. Timothy, 'That first of all prayers, supplications, intercoffions and giving of thanks be made for all men, for Kings and those in Authoricty.-

And then we conclude our daily prayers with that excellent form

form of St. Chrysoftome, wherein we recognize the grace wouch afed us with one accord to make our supplications unto God, and the divine promise to such who are so gathered together in his name be they but two or three, and thereupon, with faith and fervency and yet withal a becoming submission unto God's infinite wisdom, inforce afres all our petitions. especially that we may fo far know and acknowledge the truth of the Gospel here in this life, as to be conducted by it unto life everlasting.

And we shut up all with that Apostolical form of imperrating a bleffing at our departure, from the Holy Trinity and each per-The grace of Con therein. our Lord Jefus Christ and the Love of God, and the fellowihip of the Holy Gost be with us all evermore, Amen.

Thus

2 Cor, 19,

Thus have I briefly run over the ordinary course of our daily Prayers; One piece of our common Service: Farther I am willing to gloss upon, because it hath not that deserved value in the World, which ought to be set upon it: I mean the Solemn Litany appointed for Sundays (the usual times of most populous assemblies) and for Wedners days of Fridays weekly (which have been noted in the Antient Church for days of more than ordinary humiliation.)

The word Litany imports no more but a certain form of most carnelt supplication; and fuch indeed is this prescribed, where in Priest and People are to strive together, as mutual helpers each toother, in the wrestling with God for a special blessing upon themselves and all others.

This Prayer begins with the invoca-

invocation and adoration of the sacred Trinity, of each Person distinctly, and then of the three in Union according to our Faith of the undivided Deity of this holy and mysterious Trinity. As we are baptized, believe, and confess, so we worship and Supplicate unto God the Father of Heaven, the Maker of the ' world, God the Son the Re-'deemer of the world, and God the Holy Ghost proceeding from the Father and the Son; and having fo done, with a repeated fervour renew again our requests unto this holy, bleffed, and glorious Trinity, God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, three Persons but one God 5 whom we most earnestly implore to have mercy upon us miserable Sinners; therefore miserable because sinners, and being Sinners eternal-

ly miserable, unless we obtain mercy. Herein therefore we worthily imitate, and most Christian-like comment upon the Publicanes prayer, God be merci. Luke 18. ful to me a Sinner.

And wretched Sinners indeed we are in a remarkable manner against each person of the facred Trinity and fo fiely in-Aruched here to beg mercy from

each Person distinctly.

We are Sinners against God the Father, the Maker of Heaven and Earth, by transgresfing and violating the Lawes of h screation, and demeaning our felves contrary to the obligations of our creature flate and relation to him.

We are Sinners against God the Son, the Redeemer of the World, by flighting of his love, ungratefully requiting of his good will, opposing and offer-

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ing despight unto him in all his

Cacred offices.

the holy Ghost by withstanding his divine motions, stifling of his convictions and rejecting of his comforts.

To each therefore we are to confe is our selves miserable sinners, and to have recourse to each for mercy and forgiveness, and to each also we may gather some encouragement to make our supplication in this distinct commemoration of them.

the Father of Heaven, who hath made us and all the World, we are encouraged to hope that he will have mercy on the work of his own hands and welcome us among his returning produgals.

While we call upon God the Son the Redeemer of the world, who hath Eedeemed us and all mankind, we are encouraged to hope, that he will have mercy on those, whom he hath bought so dear, and purchased with his own most precious blood.

While we call upon God the Holy Ghost, whose office it is to Sanctifie, that he may comfort, and who seized on us for a Temple of God at our Baptism, we are encouraged to hope, that he will not reject and forsake us, when we submit our selves as Obedient and plyable subjects to be wrought upon and guided by him.

In this good encouragement

there fore we proceed.

Remember not, Lord, our offences, nor the Offences of our forefarhers, neither take thou vengeance of our fins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast

redeemed with thy most precisous blood, and be not angrywith us for ever. Spare us good Lord.

Thus did Godhimfelf appoint.

Let the Priests, the Ministers of the Lord, weep between the Porch and the Altar, and let them say, spare thy people O Lord—And who can follow a better pattern? in allusion to which therefore the Litany is said in our greater Churches regularly in the midst of the Church, that is, between the Porch and the Altar.

And here while we pray unto God not to remember our fins (viz. so as to impute them to us, and punish us for them: to lay them to our charge and take vengeance on their account) we also bring to mind the sins of our progenetors, which some or other of us too commonly walk in, and deprecate their

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their evil effects, which may otherwise justly entail a curse upon their Posterity. So we are instructed from the second Commandment, that God vi- Exod. 20 fiteth ' the iniquities of the fathers upon the Children, and accordingly we read that, o notwithstanding all the good acts of King Josiah, yet the fierce- 2 Kings23; ness of Gods, wrath was not turned away, wherewith his anger was kindled against Judah for the provocations of Manasseh his Grandfather's reign: Thus therefore we find it iff the Levites confession our Fathers dealt proudly and hardened Neh. 9:18 their necks and refused to o- 17,34. bey, neither were mindful of the wonders thou didft among them, -neither have our Kings our Princes, our Priests, nor our Father's kept thy law. And so in Daniel, 'O Lord, to us beour Kings, and to our Princes
our Kings, and to our Princes
and to our Fathers — So well
grounded is this prayer 'Remember not, Lord, our offences
nor the offences of our forefathers.

And mark the Christian modefty we are trained up unto. first to beg sparing mercy, and then deliverance from that evil we have deferved to smart under. First 'spare us, Good Lord, and then as it follows, Good Lord deliver us, fobefore in the Confession. But 'thou O Lordhave mercy upon us miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent. Thus are we taught to look upon our felves as condemned malefactors under the sword of divine Justice lift up.

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as it were, over our heads, and ready to firike the fatal blom, and therefore earnestly to supplicate in the first place that we may be spared; as the Psalmist, O Ps. 39. spare me a little, that I may recover my strength before I go hence and be no more feen. and then that we may be deliverd; as the same Pfalmist, O Lord, let it be thy pleasure to deliver me. And This accotding to the full extent of that clause in the Lord's prayer deliver us from all evil, upon which the following palfages of our Litany are an excellent comment.

From all evil and mischief.
(that is to say)

From fin.

From the Craft and assaults of the devil.

From thy wrath (here in this world, and so all those plagues

and

and judgments which flow from thence, ) &c.

'From everlasting damnation

( hereafter)

Note the order of this enur meration. The first and greatest evil we look upon is sin; and the Grand abettor of sin is the Devil; and therefore first we pray against sin and all the Devil's crafty assaults; and then against the punishment due unto sin, Gods wrath in the present life, and everlasting damnation afterwards. And agreeably to this method we proceed further.

First to deprecate sin, and beg deliverance from it, more particularly 'From all blindness' of heart, from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisie, from envy, hatred and malice, and from all uncharitableness, from for-

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fornication and all other deadly sin. — that is, from all filthiness of the flesh and Spi-1 Cor.7.1.

Secondly, confidering that the Devil affaults us craftily by the world, we inhabit and converse in, and by the Flesh we are clothed with, we add further. And from all the deceits of the world, the Flesh, and the Devil.

In the next place we deprecate those wasting judgments which are of a most direful and pernicious effect both upon our selves and others, whereto yet our fins have justly exposed us. From lightning and tempest; from plague, pestilence, and famine; from battle, and murder, and from sudden death. And for a greater Security as gainst those and the like callamities.

Fourthly

Fourthly, we pray against fuch publique and crying fins by name, as carry also punishments in their very bowels, dangerous to State and Church, to both together. From all sedition, privy conspiracy, and rebellion; from all false doctrine, herefie, and schism; from hardeness of heart, and contempt of thy word and command-

pray to be deliver'd, and are encouraged to hope that God will here these our prayers, by vertue of the holy actions and Passion of Christ our Saviour. We have no merits of our own to plead with God; but every thing that Blessed Person did and suffer'd had, we know, its merit, and ought to have its efficately upon us. These undertakings therefore of Christ we commemorate

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memorate before God particularly, (and the more particularly the better) praying to Christ that we may reap the benefit of them all, and for the fake of what he hath done and suffer'd for us in our nature ( by those 3ecksons sufferings of his especially, where- the Creed by he was confectated to be our 1.9.s.1. compassionate High-Priest ) we may be spared and delivered; importuning him, by all that he bath already done, yet to do more for us, and that we may right ly, and effectually use and appty, all that he hath done and suffer'd upon our account. This is the most Christian in portance of that of our Litany, which some both spightfully and blasphemously have Nicknamed conjuring.

"By the Mystery of thy hose ly incarnation; by thy holy "Nativity and Circumcision;

by

by thy Baprisme, Fasting, and Temptation so Good Lord de-

"By thine Agony and bloody Swear; by thy Cross and

Death and Burial; by thy

"glorious Resurrection and As-

cention, and by the coming

" of the Holy Ghost, Good Lord deliver us.

that those several steps of his candescention and performances for
us may not be in vain as to our
perticulars, but applyed to our
benefit and behoof in the merit
and success of them: That we
may be spared and delivered
upon the score and by the means of
through the saving method of
all those acts and Rassons of hisThe Apostle St. Paul having

Rom. 7. 24,

The Apostle St. Paul having cryed out, Ouretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from

from the body of this death; adds immediately upon it, I thank God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. And we in like manner having owned our selves miserable sinners, are here instructed to pray and hope for deliverance, only by and through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Nor is there any other name given under Heaven, whereby AR.4.12.

we must be saved.

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But then that we may be fure to store up a blessing for our selves in all times and seafons, wherein we stand most in Heb.4.16.
need, sutable help and relief in Eurasgor every necessity, we add.

"In all time of our tribu-

wealth; in the hour of

ce death; and in the day of

"judgment.

Good Lord deliver us
That is, now in this life in all
eftates

estates and conditions, at our departure hence, and our solemn dismission at the last and great day to our eternal and unalterable

place of abode for ever.

At the present we have cither the temptations and miferies of tribulations, or the cares and fnares of prosperity furrounding of us. At the hour of death we quit this state of our probation upon earth, and then is our greatest Agonie; and at the day of judgment we are to have onr final doom, fo that if we escape in all these times we are cerrain to do well, and be happy for ever. Here therefore we should be fure to add a most attentive, deliberate, and earnest, Good Lord deliver us.

Thus having continued our deprecations against all evil: our supplications and petitions for all good follow orderly; and those

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not only for our felves, but others also, whom we are taught
and obliged to pray for. Haveing first deprecated God's
wrath and displeasure, we gather encouragement to add, in
the hopes of divine mercy
through what our Blessed Saviour hath done and suffer'd for
us, We sinners (but now penitents) do beseech thee to hear us
O Lord God.—

Now bear we pray

First, for the Catholick Church, the holy Church of Christ universal, dispersed throughout the World, as Ephs. 4.4? members our selves of that one body, That it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church universal in the right way.

And them for our own Church in particular, a considerable part of that universal, and herein,

herein, as duty binds us.

First for the King's Majesty as supream, for his security and furtherunce in grace and godliness, and divine protection and success evermore to attend him against all his Enemies.

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Secondly, for his Royal re-

bleffed and preferved.

Thirdly, for the Clergy of all orders, Bishops, Priests and Deacons, that they may be qualified both for Preaching and Living as becomes their sacred function.

of the Laity; the Lords of the Council and all the Nobility, that they may be indued from above with grace, wisdom, and understanding, that so they may know, what concerns the publique interest in their respective trusts, and keep a good consistence in the same Fifth-

Fifthly, for all Majestrates, the Ministers of Law and Instice, that they may, as they stand obliged, and is expected from them, execute justice impartially, and maintain truth.

Sixthly, for the People, that God would vouchfafe to blefs

and keep them. And then,

seventhly, not only for our one Church, but Nation, and therewith all other Nations, that wars may cease throughout the World, and they may have the great & valuable blef-sings of unity, peace and concord:

Eighthly, for our selves in particular, that, whatever be the sate of our times and estates in this World, we may have an heart to love, and dread God, and diligently to live after his Commandments. So shall we be sure to provide for our own greatest interest and security.

Next

Next, we are more especially mindful of the congregations of Godly and Christian people assembled together, as we our selves are, that God would vouchsafe the increase of his grace to them, that they may hear weekly his word and receive it with pure affection, and not be hearers only, but doers of the same, bringing forth the fruits of the Spirit.

And here we forget not to compassionate the case of those who are mislead and seduced from the publique assemblies of their Christian brethren; and therefore pray, 'that it' may please God to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred and are deceived.

And at the same time mindful of our own and others danger, the temptations and assaults wherewith we are apt to be foiled, and fome of our own number have been overtaken, we add that it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand, and to comfort and help the weak-hearted, and to raise up them that fall, and finally to beat down Satan under our feet.

And then we enlarge our Christian Sympathy to the Sad conditions of all forts of miserable Rom. 12; people, that we may according 15. to the command, " mourn with Heb. 13.3." those that mourn, and eremember others, as being our selves likewise in the body. That it may please God to succour help, and comfort all that are in any danger, necessity and tribulation. To preserve trae vellers from the many perils of Land and Water. Wo-'men in their afflictive and hazardous labours, fick Perfons

fons amidst their languishments, young Children exposed to manifold dangers and shew pity upon all prisoners and captives, into whose Soul as into Joseph's, the Iron enters. That he would please to deferd and provide for the Fatherless Children and Widows, and all that are desolute and oppressed. The most helpless and forlorn anong men.

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And that we may be sure to leave none out of our prayers,
That he would have mercy upon all men, according to the exigent of their state.

But among all men, that we may be fure not to forget the most (hristian precept of Math 5,44 lowing and praying for our ene-

please thee to forgive our enemies, Persecutors and Slanderers, and to turn their hearts.

And

And then we return again to pray for our selves; and having asked before an heart to love and dread God, and lead a vertuous and holy Life in obedience to his commands, we come to our daily bread, and acknowledging our dependence upon God for the same, the many cafualties whereto the meanes of our subsistence lie open, and his over-ruling providence in all things, who alone can give us the fruits of the earth in their scason, and preserve them to our use, and make them kindly and available to our good, we pray, that it 'may please thee to give and preserve to our use the kindly fruits of the earth, fo as in due time we may enjoy theni.

That is every day our daily bread, the food Convenient for us.

And then calling back to mind, bow justly our thiquity may turn away all good things from us, and that nothing but repentance can qualifie us for mercy, and no repentance will pals for unfeigned without amendment of Life artending of it, we beg of God 'to give us this true repentance, and to forgive us all our fins, enegligences, and ignorances, and to endue us with the grace of his holy Spirit to amend our lives according to his holy word.

Lastly, to quicken our derioton, the neerer we are to the conclusion of this our Litany, the shorter, and livelier, and more

passionate grow our petitions.

Son of God, we beleech thee to hear us.

O Lamb of God, takest a way the fins of c the

the world (by the facrifice of thy Selfe).

Grant us thy peace.

O Lamb of God that takeft 'away the fins of the world (by thy continual intercession)

' Have mercy upon us

O. Christ (thou who are the anointed of God, designed, commissioned, and sept on purpose to be our Meffiah and Saviour, out Mediator and Advocate hear us &c.

This Litany, you fee, is not one continued prayer, but divided between Minister and people with many pithy, and fignificant ejaculations to the mutual relief of each other's devotion. And those that quarrel with it, however wity they may feem tis justly to be feared, are not reconciled, as they ought, unto Christianity it selfe, the principal branches of which are faith

and

and love, whose genuine sentiments and breathings are so
visible throughout this wholesome form of most earnest supplication, a right and true saith,
I mean, in the sacred Trinity,
and a well-regulated love towards
God, our selves, and all the world.
In a word the persection of it
is such, (as an able person hath
upon due consideration resolved
ed us) that it upbraideth with
error or somewhat worse them
whom in all parts it doth not
satisfie.

Mr Hooker Eccl. Pol.

> There are many other confiderable parts of our Church Liturgy which I have fa'd nothing of. The whole Communion fervice, and therein the Ten Commandements with devout petitions for pardon and grace, at the end of each of thin, the Colless, Epiftles and Gospels, besides Prayers and Thanksgiveings

ings proper to fundry days and occasions, and most excellent provisions for the fruitful celebration of both the Sacramets, for Catechifeing confirmation, matrimony, visitation of the fick, burial of the dead, Churching of women after Child-birth, and the beginning of Lent, with the formes appointed for the making, ordaining, and confectating Bishops, Priests and Deacons. But it shall suffice thus far to have given a tast and relish to excite and whet your appetites to all the rest; and our Churches fervices, as I conceive wants nothing fo much as a good will and spiritual appetite in those that frequent it.

Onely now I will take leave to thut up all with some short remarkes upon the

whole. And.

First observe, I beseech you G 4 with

with me from what hath been declared, the great prudence of this Church in the intermixing of such a profitable variety of holy exercises interchanged each with other to prevent all weariness, and that our fouls, if pioully difposed, may delight themselves with taking a turn in fo many different walks of devotion. first having the words of exhortation, and Then 2. Confessing our fins. and Then 3. Artende ing to God's absolution, and Then 4. Solemn prayer, and Then 5. Quickning of each other to fet forth the divine praises, and 6. Teaching and 'admonishing one another in 'Pfalmes, and Then 7. Listening to what God hath faid nnto " us in his holy word both of 'the Old and New Testament; and when we have so dope 8. bleffing of his name with Sacred cred

fessing our Christian Faith in the chief Articles of it, and Then 10. Composing our selves again to prayers with thanksgiving, to prayers of adiverse make and constitution, of different kinds and sormissome continued, some intersecutory, some shorter, some Longer; deprecations, apprecations, intersections— till we are dismissione sed, at last, as God appointed a- Num. 6.23, mong the Jews, with a blessing.

This admirable variety is, as I said, singularly useful to prevent all weariness and languisting in God's service, and to keep alive our attention and devotion throughout the same.

Secondly, observe the great conscience and care of the Church in providing of so excellent a

Form

Form of serving God, and that for all places; even the meanes cures in the Land, that whate ver be the weakness, infirmities, and indispositions of some that minister, about holy things, the people have an wholfome supply made for their edification and Salvation from the publique, that God's service may neither be wholly omitted nor unworthily performed ; for which certainly we ought to give thanks unro God Almighty; as a great bleffing. By this means the people of the Land are taught, and trained up every where to ferve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear instructed plainly, how to confess their fins penitently, to pray unto him, to bless and praise him, what to believe and what to pradice - If they are not wanting in their attendance hercunto, And for luch

such who are altogether negligent, supine and careless there can be

no remedy.

fie e

Thirdly, bow groundless and preposterous is the zeal of thise who contend with eagerness and passion (as about a matter of very great moment and importance) for a long extempore prayer of the Minister's own framing before the fermon? The plain english of which is this, that either the congregation hath not been praying all the while, till then; or hitherto they have prayed onely in the Churches language, the common prayers, now they must mend them and pray better of aparticular man's enditeing. - Mistake me not; I condemn not that performance in it self, where managed with a besiting prudence and gravity, but censure it onely here so far, as it is used to cast a malignant

reflection on and undervalue the Churches Prayers, as not affording provision sufficient e-

nough without it.

Fourthly, what a strange Spirit of giddiness were they acted by, who in the late unhappy times proclaimed the Commonprayers of the Church, one of the Plague-fores of this Kingdom, and thought (at least pretended fo) they did God fervice by rending of that innocent and useful Book in pieces; yea and reckon'd it a price northy all the Blood shed in our long unnatural and uncivil Wars, to be rid of that impesition? But what a madness and sottisbness are they overtaken with, who continue Hill to bespatter and vilifie So grave and excellent a computure of truly Christian Devotion?

Fifthly, how much, and deferwedly, are they to be blamed,

whoo

who, having the cure of Souls in thefe Dominions committed to them, do frequently corrupt and mangle so entire and wholesome a fervice, (and that notwithstanding their unfeigned affent and consent profifedly given to each part of it, and the use thereof) omitting sometimes, & sometimes altering material parts of those sacred offices, which the most unquestionable authority hath appointed and the vertual confent of the whole Kingdom dedicated unto God? These draw on themselves the evil of Sacriledge by robbing God of part of his Glory, and the people of the benefit designed them.

Lastly, to end all, How much ought they to be reproved, who willingly absent and excommunicate themselves from this Service of the Church? will come, it may be, to the Preacher's Sermon, but not to the

the Charches Prayers, or at least regard not, when they come, though they miss a great part of them, mind not to come at the beginning to take the beautiful and edifying method of the service along with them, and make no conscience at all of giving their attendance in publique, on the dayes set apart for Prayer?

If there be such sins as schisme and disorder, and there be any danger at all in those sins (and the Scripture, I think, is plain enough as to both) I know not how these Persons can be either justified or excused: Let them

consider well of it.

A Paraphrase on the Lord's Prayer.

[Our Fa-

B'essed God, the Maker and Preserver of all things, and Father of all mankind, but more peculiarly

peculiarly the Father of our Lord Fefus Christ, and of all Christians by and through him, in and by whom we also have the gracious priviledge to cill upon and come unto thee as Our Father.

Our heavenly Father, the Which art giver of all goodness, whose Wisdom, Power, and Bowels do infinitely exceed those of Earthly Parents, even as Heaven doth earth, who yet art fo in Heaven as to be every where on earth, to pity and relieve thy Children. Look down from heaven, the place of thy most glorious habitation, with an eye of favour, and accept of us, however unworthy, among thy returning Prodigals.

The earnest desire of whose [Hallowed Souls at this time is, That thou be thy maist be Acknowledged, Honour-name.] ed, Worshipped, and Glorified, in what soever it hath pleased thee

in all thy holy attributes, in all thy excellent works of Creation, Providence, and Redemption, in all thy mercies and judgoments, in all thy facred infitutions, thy holy word and ordinances, in all the places, things, and Perfons devoted to thy honour and fervice, by all thy reasonable Creatures, Angels and Men, by thy Church universal throughout the World, and our selves, as so many members thereof in particular.

dom come.] and righteousness, the Kingdom come.] and righteousness, the Kingdome of thy grace, preparing
for and introducing that of glory, may every where obtain,
and advance it self continually
in our hearts and lives, and
throughout all the Families and
Kingdomes of the World to the
utter destruction of the usurpation

tion and Tyranny of Sins and Satan, and death.

That thy will, and not our [ Thy will ome, thy will and not thine enemies, thy will, which is alwayes Soveraigne, just and good, may be actively obeyed in all thy commands, and patiently, and cheerfully submitted to in all thy decrees and disposals;

And this as sincerely, readily, In earth as and perseveringly by us the in- it is in heahabitants of Earth, as it is by Saints and Angels in Heaven; that we may endeavour, as we are able, an imitation of, and conformity unto that happy place and company, to which we defire and hope at last to be translated.

And, fince in the mean while our whole dependence is upon thee, ibis day our in whom we live, and move, and daily have our beings, wouchsafe us,! we pray thee day by day the things

which thou feeft to be needful both Prov. 30.8. for our fouls and bodies. Feed us with the food that is convenient for us. Let all thy gifts and our enjoyments be sweetned with thy love and made effectual for our good by thy bleffing.

[ And forgive us our

And, least our fins, which are, Trespasses. ] we confess with grief and forrow, many and great, should interpose, to hinder good things from us, or bring down that curse, which we have justly deserved, upon our heads, we most humbly befeech thee, not to impute them to our charge, but pardon and forg we them all according to the multitude of thy tender mercies, and the gracious declarations of the gospel-covenant sealed by the precious blood of thy dear Son. Whatfoever dury we have at any time omitted, which we ought to have performed towards thy divine Majesty, our neighbours

neighbours; or our felves; what foever trespasses we have commitinted in thought, word, or action,
which we ought not to have
done; what soever failings we
have been guilty of, in our lawful and best performances; blot
hem all out of thy remembrance, and let them never
rise up in judgment against us
for our punishment by thy wrath
and indignation here, or
our final condemnation bereafter.

Thus we are encouraged by [Asme forthee to pray, because thou hast give them
commanded us, who are so impass against
persist and evil, severy one from us.]

This heate, to forgive our offendring brethren; and thus we
are further encouraged to hope,
because we seel thy grace inclining our hearts unto such mercy and
compossion towards them. Forgive us therefore, good Lord,
freely

freely and fully, all that is past?

[And lead us not into temptati-

And that we may not run further into the like guilt for the time to come, fince we live in this world among a multitude of Snares, and our Souls have divers enemies that watch continually to do them mischiefy to entice or affrighten us from the paths of wisdome and righteousnels to folly and iniquity, grant that we may carefully thun the temtations every where laid for us, and ever leave us withour thy aid and succour to our own weak - . ness, or the malice power and: subtilty of the nicked one;

[But deliver us from vil.]

But by thy mighty and seasons able, help reskue and deliver us from all evil, both of sin and danger, from the evil one, 'that goeth about like a roaring Lyon and wily Seepent seeking whom he may devour, from our own evil, treacherous and deceitful hearts, from

(101) Ica

from this present evil world, and from everlasting death and miser.

All this, most gracious Father, i [For thin we are emboldned to ask at stheking. thy hands with confidence, that the power thou wilt hear and answer us; for and the thou wilt hear and answer us; lot glory, for thine of right is the Kingdom and ever and ever dominion over all; thou art ver ] Almighty in power and 'able to do for us exceeding abundant-'ly above whatfoever we can ask for think ; and thy goodness is thy chiefest glory, to whom it belongeth to regard the petitions of thy devout supplicant, as in former ages, so now and for evermore: for thou art the fame and changest not.

And therefore both to renew Amen. these our requests and testify our belief and expediations, as to the granting of them, we conclude with an heart, Amen, So

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be it, O Father; and so we trust it shall be unto thy Children and Servants according to thy word, Amen and Amen.

FINIS.



